

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to reflect that if I had been present I would have voted aye on roll call number 534, aye on roll call number 535, nay on roll call number 536, aye on roll call number 537, nay on roll call number 538, aye on roll call number 539, aye on roll call number 540, nay on roll call number 541, aye on roll call number 542, aye on roll call number 543, aye on roll call number 544, nay on roll call number 545, aye on roll call number 546, aye on roll call number 547, aye on roll call number 548, and aye on roll call number 549.

URGING CONGRESS TO SUPPORT FARM TO SCHOOL

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to a vital childhood nutrition program in desperate need of funding. In the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, Congress established mandatory funding of \$5 million annually for a farm to school competitive grant and technical assistance program. This program allows communities to provide local foods in schools. Programs like this boost farm income while also fostering experiential food education for our children. Farm to school empowers children and their families to make informed food choices while strengthening the local economy and contributing to vibrant communities. The proven benefits such as food security, sustainable farming education, as well as long-term healthy lifestyle choices have been invaluable to communities all over the United States. Unfortunately, demand for the program is more than five times higher than available funding, which is why I urge Congress to support the Farm to School Act of 2015.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,152,638,934,294.38. We've added \$7,525,761,885,381.30 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

IN RECOGNITION OF OCTOBER AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and to reaffirm our commitment to ending domestic violence in this country.

Established 24 years ago, Domestic Violence Awareness Month exists to raise awareness across the country regarding the prevalence of domestic violence and opportunities for victims. Americans of any gender, age, religious group, neighborhood, income level, and racial or ethnic background are at risk.

The statistics are simply staggering. Every minute, nearly 20 people in the United States are physically abused by an intimate partner—amounting to more than 10 million women and men in the United States a year. Horrifically, one in three women will experience an incident of domestic violence, while one in four men have been victims of some form of physical violence by an intimate partner within their lifetime. Daily, more than 20,000 calls are placed to domestic violence hotlines nationwide. This epidemic has far-reaching consequences in our communities; domestic violence is the third-leading cause of homelessness among families, and over 10 million children are exposed every year.

A key step in working toward ending domestic violence in this country is to increase awareness, engagement, and education surrounding this issue. To this end, we are fortunate to have the efforts of exemplary organizations, including South Shore Women's Resource Center, The Women's Fund of South-eastern Massachusetts, We Can, and Cape Cod Center for Women, working to provide stability, shelter, and safety for victims of domestic violence throughout my district and the Commonwealth. Similarly, Jane Doe Inc. promotes a simple yet critical message: men are essential partners in the fight to end domestic violence and sexual assault against women. Jane Doe Inc.'s White Ribbon Campaign has proven to be a positive way to send the message that violence against women is unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, I urge everyone to join me in continuing our efforts by recognizing October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. There is much work yet to be done, but, as these tireless Massachusetts organizations have demonstrated, together, we can make a difference.

HONORING NATIONAL COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the National Collegiate Honors Council as they celebrate their 50th anniversary this year. The National Collegiate Honors

Council represents 800 colleges and universities and is composed of 325,000 students dedicated to achieving educational excellence in diverse subject curriculum areas, in order to achieve professional career goals.

In my district, the Iona College Honors Program attracts the most talented and motivated students from all majors and disciplines. The honors program challenges students to develop their talents, stretch their capabilities, and prepare themselves for postgraduate study and professional careers. In order to mentor and challenge Iona's exceptional students, the honors program provides them individual academic and career counseling, small class sizes, and advanced courses. Iona College honors students go on to achieve prominence in a diverse range of professional fields including law, advertising, banking, education, and law enforcement. Grounded in an interdisciplinary rigorous curriculum marked by an accelerated course of study, students in the Honors Program embody the mission of Iona College, the Christian Brothers, and Catholic higher education.

The National Collegiate Honors Program, after decades of growth and experience, continually prepares our students for successful professional careers. I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing the program's contributions to our nation's educational and professional communities for the last 50 years.

CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AGING & IN-HOME SERVICES OF NORTHEAST INDIANA, INC.

HON. MARLIN A. STUTZMAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to acknowledge the 40th anniversary and celebrate the accomplishments of Aging & In-Home Services of Northeast Indiana, Inc. AIHS is a private, non-for-profit social service organization serving seniors and persons with disabilities of all ages since 1975. It is the Area III Agency on Aging as designated by the U.S. Administration on Community Living and the State of Indiana. As such, it is the primary resource for older adults, persons with disabilities, and their caregivers, and a funding source of services including support for the Councils on Aging in their nine-county service area: Allen, Adams, DeKalb, Huntington, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben, Wells, and Whitley.

The organization works tirelessly to strengthen local and statewide systems for advocacy and protection of older adults, and other at-risk vulnerable populations. In 2014 AIHS touched the lives of more than 57,000 individuals through its continuum of programs to support safe and independent living at home. All services are provided regardless of race, age, color, religion, sex, disability, national origin or ancestry.

In the past year, the agency has received national recognition for strategic leadership and initiatives in bridging the gap between traditional Older Americans Act programs and the new healthcare model of service provision and payment sources, including:

Administration on Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health & Human Services,